

Message Text

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TRSE-00 CIEP-01 CEA-01 DOTE-00 OES-03 DLOS-03 COA-01

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SUBJECT: THE COCOYOC DECLARATION ON "PATTERNS OF RESOURCE
USE, ENVIRONMENT, AND DEVELOPMENT STRATEGIES"

REF: NAIROBI 9587

SUGGESTED TALKING POINTS FOR MISSIONS TO USE WITH STRONG,
COREA AND IGLESIAS FOLLOW:

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1. WE BELIEVE THAT THE COCOYOC DECLARATION CONTAINS MUCH

THAT IS POSITIVE AND CONSTRUCTIVE INCLUDING ITS UNIFIED APPROACH TO THE PROBLEMS OF DEVELOPMENT, ENVIRONMENTAL DEGRADATION, AND UNRESTRAINED POPULATION GROWTH. WE ALSO NOTED WITH APPROVAL ITS THOUGHTFUL DISCUSSION OF DIVERSITY IN DEVELOPMENT, ITS REJECTION OF THE SIMPLISTIC CONCEPT OF DEVELOPMENTAL GAPS, AND ITS EMPHASIS ON SELF RELIANCE.

2. THE DECLARATION, HOWEVER, APPEARS TO ACCEPT A CON-SHIRACY THEORY OF HISTORY WITH ITS SEVERAL ALLUSIONS TO PRE-EMPTION BY THE RICH AND POWERFUL NATIONS OF THE RAW MATERIALS OF THE POOR COUNTRIES THROUGH THE PURPOSIVE MAINTENANCE OF THE BUILT IN BIAS OF THE EXISTING INTER-NATIONAL MARKET MECHANISM.

3. IT APPEARS TO GIVE IMPLICIT APPROVAL TO THE ACTIONS OF THE OIL CARTEL IN USING MONOPOLY POWER TO QUADRUPLE

OIL PRICES AND IT POINTS TO THIS ACTION AS AN EXAMPLE FOR OTHER LDCS TO FOLLOW. ADVOCATING THE DIVERSION OF REAL RESOURCES BY EXPROPRIATION THROUGH RUTHLESS USE OF MONOPOLY POWER OF PRODUCER CARTELS OF KEY RESOURCES IS HARDLY HELPFUL IN PERSUADING PARLIAMENTARY GOVERNMENTS TO COOPERATE IN THE TRANSFER OF SUCH RESOURCES THROUGH TRADE, INVESTMENT AND DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE. THE DECLARATION SEEMS TO BE ADVOCATING CONFRONTATION TACTICS RATHER THAN THE COOPERATION NEEDED FOR POSITIVE RESULTS.

4. DECLARATION TREATS PRODUCTION AS IF IT WERE A FIXED QUANTITY WHICH EXISTS INDEPENDENTLY OF THE INSTITUTIONS WHICH CREATED IT AND WHICH CAN BE DISTRIBUTED AT WILL WITHOUT AFFECTING THAT PRODUCTIVITY. IT ENGAGES IN SOME HIGHLY SIMPLISTIC ECONOMICS, SUCH AS CASTIGATING THE MARKET MECHANISM WITHOUT EXAMINING THE ROLE OF THAT MECHANISM IN CREATING THE WEALTH WHICH THE AUTHORS WISH TO REDISTRIBUTE, EVEN WHILE THEY DECRY IT. ITS PORTRAIT OF "CENTERS, EXPLOITING A VAST PERIPHERY" HAS MORE OF POLEMICS THAN ECONOMIC REALITY. THE DECLARATION ENDORSES UNFETTERED RIGHTS OF LDCS TO MAKE THEIR OWN DECISIONS AND TO PLAN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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THEIR OWN DESTINIES, BUT ASSERTS AN OBLIGATION OF OTHERS TO SUPPORT THEM, WHATEVER THESE DECISIONS MAY BE. THIS APPROACH BUTTRESSES A STATE OF MIND AMONG LDCS WHICH ALREADY CAUSES PROBLEMS FOR EFFORTS AT SERIOUS INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION.

5. IN APPORTIONING ALL THE BLAME FOR WORLD POVERTY AND ENVIRONMENTAL DEGRADATION TO THE FREE MARKET INDUSTRIAL

NATIONS, IT FREES GOVERNMENTS OF THE LDCS FROM RESPONSIBILITY FOR POLICIES AND PROGRAMS IN DEVELOPMENT AND POPULATION CONTROL WHICH ONLY THEY CAN CARRY OUT. IT ALSO IGNORES THE IMPACT OF THE USSR, THE WORLD'S SECOND LARGEST INDUSTRIAL PRODUCER, AND THE OTHER SOCIALIST COUNTRIES ON FOOD AND RAW MATERIAL AVAILABILITIES NOT TO MENTION THEIR IMPACT ON THE BIOSPHERE.

6. THE DECLARATION ENDORSED THE PLAN OF ACTION ON A NEW INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC ORDER DESPITE OVER 200 RESERVATIONS BY 35 MEMBERS OF THE UN AND IT ENDORSED WITHOUT QUALIFICATION THE DRAFT (I., BY IMPLICATION THE LDC VERSIONS) OF THE CHARTER OF ECONOMIC RIGHTS AND DUTIES OF STATES WHICH MANY DEVELOPED MEMBERS HAVE INDICATED WOULD NOT BE ACCEPTABLE WITHOUT SUBSTANTIAL CHANGES TO GIVE IT BALANCE.

7. SYMPOSIUMS UNDER THE AUSPICES OF UN ORGANIZATIONS WHICH ARE SUPPORTED BY ALL MEMBERS SHOULD BE MORE REPRESENTATIVE OF DIVERSE VIEWS AND THEY SHOULD NOT APPEAR TO REPRESENT ONLY ONE POINT OF VIEW ON CONTROVERSIAL SUBJECTS. INGERSOLL

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